

**Amendments to the Claims:**

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

Claims 1 - 10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) In a curable mineral construction product containing a film forming redispersible polymer powder, the improvement comprising:

employing as said redispersible polymer powder, a redispersible polymer powder composition comprising at least one film forming redispersible polymer powder, and at least one biocide.

12. (Previously Presented) The construction product of claim 11, wherein said redispersible polymer powder composition is prepared by spray drying an aqueous redispersible polymer dispersion and at least one biocide.

13. (Previously Presented) The construction product of claim 12, wherein biocide is added to said aqueous redispersible polymer dispersion prior to spray drying.

14. (Previously Presented) The construction product of claim 11 which contains a hydraulically setting mineral binder.

15. (Previously Presented) The construction product of claim 11, wherein at least one hydraulically setting binder is selected from the group consisting of cement, water glass, gypsum, and lime.

16. (Previously Presented) The construction product of claim 11, wherein at least one film forming polymer comprises a polymer polymerized from one or more

monomers selected from the group consisting of vinyl esters, (meth)acrylic esters, vinylaromatics, olefins, 1,3-dienes, vinyl halides, and optionally, further monomers copolymerizable therewith.

17. (Previously Presented) The construction product of claim 11, wherein at least one film forming polymer comprises a copolymer comprising vinyl acetate and ethylene, a copolymer comprising vinyl acetate, ethylene and a vinyl ester of  $\alpha$ -branched monocarboxylic acids having from 9 to 11 carbon atoms, or a copolymer comprising styrene and one or more of methyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, propyl acrylate, n-butyl acrylate, or 2-ethylhexyl acrylate.

18. (Previously Presented) A process for increasing the resistance of cured mineral building products containing a biocide to microbial growth, comprising adding at least one biocide in the form of a dry composition containing at least one film forming redispersible polymer powder and at least one biocide.

19. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of a curable, biocide-containing mineral building material of claim 11, comprising admixing

- a) one or more mineral building composition components;
- b) water; and
- c) a redispersible polymer powder composition comprising at least one film forming redispersible polymer powder and a biocidal additive of at least one biocide, said biocidal component present in an amount of from 0.001 to 0.5 weight percent based on the weight of the redispersible polymer powder composition.

20. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 19, wherein at least one biocide is a fungicide.

21. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 19, wherein an isothiazolinone, benzisothiazolinone or mixture thereof is used as a biocide.

22. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 21, wherein at least one biocide is N-octylisothiazolinone.

23. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 19, wherein the biocide(s) are present in a total amount of from 0.001 to 0.1% by weight, based on the weight of the water-redispersible polymer powder composition.

24. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 19, wherein at least one film forming polymer is a polymer polymerized from one or more monomers selected from the group consisting of vinyl esters, (meth)acrylic esters, vinylaromatics, olefins, 1,3-dienes, vinyl halides, and optionally, polymerized further monomers copolymerizable therewith.

25. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 24, wherein said film forming polymer comprises a copolymer comprising vinyl acetate and ethylene, a copolymer comprising vinyl acetate, ethylene and a vinyl ester of  $\alpha$ -branched monocarboxylic acids having from 9 to 11 carbon atoms, or a copolymer comprising styrene and one or more of methyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, propyl acrylate, n-butyl acrylate, or 2-ethylhexyl acrylate.

26. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 19, wherein the water-redispersible polymer powder composition is obtained by mixing the biocide into the aqueous polymer dispersions prior to drying or adding [[it]] the biocide in solid form after drying the aqueous polymer dispersion.

27. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 19, wherein said mineral building composition component comprises one or more hydraulically setting binders selected from the group consisting of cement, water glass, gypsum, and lime.

28. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 27, wherein said curable biocide mineral building material is a building adhesive selected from the group consisting of tile adhesives, thermal insulation adhesives, plasters, renders, knifing fillers, flooring screeds, leveling compositions, sealing slurries, jointing mortars, paints, and sealing grouts for tunnel construction and underground works.

29. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 19, wherein the mineral building composition components contain no hydraulically setting binders.

30. (New) In a curable mineral construction product containing a film forming redispersible polymer powder, the improvement comprising:

employing as said redispersible polymer powder, a redispersible polymer powder composition comprising at least one film forming redispersible polymer powder, and at least one biocide, wherein said redispersible polymer powder composition is prepared by adding at least one biocide to an aqueous polymer dispersion and spray drying a biocide-containing aqueous dispersion thus prepared.

31. (New) In a curable mineral construction product containing a film forming redispersible polymer powder, the improvement comprising:

employing as said redispersible polymer powder, a redispersible polymer powder composition comprising at least one film forming redispersible polymer powder, and at least one biocide composition, said biocide composition consisting essentially of one or more biocides.

32. (New) The construction product of claim 11, wherein the redispersible polymer powder composition consists essentially of polymer, from 3 - 30 weight percent protective colloid(s), optionally 0.5 to 10 weight percent emulsifier(s), optionally up to 1.5 weight percent antifoam(s), optionally up to 30 weight percent antiblocking agent(s), optionally

hydrophobing agents, and from 0.001 to 0.5 weight percent biocide(s), wherein the weight percentages are based on the total weight of the redispersible powder composition, and total to 100%.